DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

2002 Legislative Session

A. GENERAL CONSUMER PROTECTION BILLS

(1) AUTOMOBILES/LEMON LAW

Bill/Author	<u>Title/Description</u>	Disposition
AB 1058 Pavley	Vehicular Emissions: Greenhouse Gases See Page (B34)	Died on Assembly Floor
AB 1493 Pavley	<u>Vehicular Emissions: Greenhouse Gases</u> See Page (B34)	Enacted Chapter #200
AB 2303 Runner	<u>Vehicle Registration: Smog Certificate Validity</u> See Page (B34)	Enacted Chapter #127
AB 2397 Correa	Vehicles Prohibits various acts related to the advertising of motor vehicles by motor vehicle dealers.	Enacted Chapter #947
AB 2457 Frommer	Rental Car Agencies Modifies current law, for a three-year period beginning January 1, 2003, regarding disclosures that rental car companies must provide to their customers. Specifically, provides that rental car companies do not have to provide certain oral disclosures to persons who rent through the company's membership program.	Enacted Chapter #948
AB 2461 Keeley	Taxation: Vehicle License Fees: Low-Emission Vehicles Extends the sunset date of the existing vehicle license fee exemption on the amount by which the cost of a new light-duty motor vehicle propelled by alternative fuel exceeds the cost of a comparable vehicle fueled by either gasoline or diesel fuel from January 1, 2003, to January 1, 2009.	Enacted Chapter #566
AB 2474 Simitian	Automotive Products Requires engine coolant or antifreeze being sold in this state after January 1, 2004, that is manufactured after July 1, 2003, containing more than 10 % ethylene glycol (substance used as antifreeze), to have Denatonium Benzoate (bittering agent) added to the product mixture to render it unpalatable to animals.	Enacted Chapter #998

Air Pollution: Enhanced Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Enacted **AB 2637** Program: San Francisco Bay Area Basin Chapter #1001 Cardoza See Page (B34) California Clean Communities and Petroleum Pollution Cleanup Act of Died in **AB 2682** Chu 2002 Assembly **Appropriations** See Page (B34) Committee **Advanced Technology Light-Duty Vehicles** Vetoed **AB 2774 Pavley** See Page (B34) **SB 91 Unlicensed Vehicle Dealers** Enacted **Figueroa** Chapter #407 Prohibits a person who is not licensed as a vehicle dealer or lessor-retailer from engaging in certain vehicle-related financial transactions. **SB 774 Recreational Vehicles** Failed in Margett Assembly Would have brought the sale of recreational vehicles under the regulatory **Appropriations** mechanism of the New Motor Vehicle Board at the DMV. Committee **Leased Motor Vehicles: Seatbelt Requirements Failed First SB 1144** Karnette House Would have made it a crime for an automoble dealer to lease or offer for lease any passenger vehicle manufactured on or after January 1, 1968, other than a motorcycle, unless it is equipped with seatbelts for each seating position. SB 1331 Salvage Vehicles Enacted Chapter #670 Speier Imposes additional requirements concerning the registration of "total loss salvage vehicles" and establishes certain new definitions related to these vehicles. Deletes the January 1, 2003 sunset date authorizing a \$50 fee for inspected salvage vehicles, thus extending the fee indefinitely. SB 1420 **Vehicles: Noise Citations** Enacted Johannessen Chapter #569 See Page (B34) SB 1578 **Emission Control: Specially Constructed Vehicles** Enacted Chapter #693 **Johannessen** See Page (B34) **SB 1743 Vehicles** Vetoed Speier Would have provided that salvage pools must be licensed by the

Department of Motor Vehicles and would have made changes to the salvage certificate with the intent of ensuring that consumers are aware of the vehicles' salvage history. Salvage pools are defined as persons engaged exclusively in the business of disposing of salvage vehicles, nonrepairable vehicles, or recovered stolen vehicles. Would have required additional inspections of salvage vehicles to increase the safety of consumers who purchase salvages vehicles.

SB 2076 Bowen **Vehicles**

Requires financial institutions, leasing companies, insurance companies, and others to satisfy improved disclosure requirements relating to salvage vehicles.

Enacted Chapter #826

(2) BUSINESS PRACTICES

AB 264 Correa **Specialty-Trade Contractors**

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #311

AB 356 Correa

Health Studios

Would have increased the monetary limit on health club contracts from \$1,000 to \$2,000, and would have allowed contracts to exceed this limit if the club operator posted a bond with the Secretary of State in the amount of \$250,000, or if the club operator had been doing business in California for more than five years. Would have exempted initiation fees or fees for optional services, i.e., personal training, from the \$2,000 limit. Would have increased the amount of time that may pass from the date a contract is entered until the agreed upon services begin from 6 months to 12 months, under specified circumstances.

Died in Senate Rules

AB 372 Nation **Home Warranty and Service Contracts**

See Page (B12)

Failed First House

AB 784 Hertzberg **Privacy Protection: Customer Records**

Would have included bank account balance information in the list of personal information that businesses are required to destroy in order to protect customers' personal information. This bill was substantially amended on June 12, 2002 and no longer pertains to DCA.

Died in Senate Local Government Committee

AB 839 Lowenthal **Unsolicited Facsimile Transmissions**

Would have enhanced existing law by enacting an absolute prohibition of the use of a fax machine to disseminate unsolicited advertising and promotional materials.

Failed in Senate Business & Professions Committee

Vetoed

AB 1074 Nakano **Advertising: Floral Telephone Listings**

Would have prohibited providers or vendors of floral or ornamental products or services from misrepresenting the geographic location of their business.

AB 1336 Koretz **Pet Shops: Consumer Information**

Places notice requirements on pet dealers by requiring pet dealers to provide consumers who purchase a dog or cat with written information about the benefits of spaying and neutering, developing a relationship with a veterinarian, and the need to comply with applicable license laws.

AB 1753 Migden	Magazine Distributors Requires magazine distributors to clearly and conspicuously print the expiration date on subscription renewal notices.	Enacted Chapter #191
AB 1796 Strickland	Construction Projects: Minors See Page (B9)	Failed Assembly Labor & Employment Committee
AB 1822 Vargas	Construction Contractors Line of Credit and Contract Management Program See Page (B9)	Died in Assembly Appropriation
AB 1839 Campbell, Bill	Indemnity: Public Agency See Page (B9)	Died in Senate Judiciary Committee
AB 1856 Nation	Unsolicited Mail Would have prohibited California businesses from mailing unsolicited advertisements (junk mail) through the United States Postal Service.	Failed on Assembly Floor
AB 1956 Vargas	Video Arcades Requires video game arcades to post a sign encouraging the use of an industry-created "traffic light" rating system (red, yellow, green) for coinoperated video game machines, and requires video arcades to provide consumers, upon request, a brochure describing the rating system.	Enacted Chapter #748
AB 1993 Correa	Structural Pest Control Operators: Wood Destroying Pests See page (B36)	Died in Assembly Business & Professions Committee
AB 1995 Correa	Audits See page (B1)	Failed Passage
AB 2432 Pacheco, Rod	Public Utilities: Property: Condemnation: Unauthorized Entry Would have prohibited public utilities from entering the real property of another prior to condemning the property without the written authorization of the property owner, unless the California Public Utilities Commission had issued a certificate of public convenience and necessity or found a preadvance need involving the property.	Failed in Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee
AB 2473 Simitian	Gift Certificates: Bankruptcy Requires the issuer of a gift certificate to honor that gift certificate if the issuer files for bankruptcy.	Enacted Chapter #997

AB 2545 Nation

Housing Code Inspections

Would have required, prior to an inspection of residential rental property pursuant to a routine proactive housing code inspection program, that an officer, employee, or agent of an enforcement agency provide a written notice of the pending inspection by mail or by posting it conspicuously on the property. The notice must contain a description of the city's or county's inspection program and enforcement procedures, the date and time of the inspection, and an advisory that states officers may not enter a dwelling without permission from owners or occupants and/or a warrant.

Failed Senate Housing & Community Development Committee

AB 2568 Campbell, John

Advertising

Would have deleted the existing law that prohibits faxing unsolicited advertising material and would have enacted new provisions prohibiting a person from using any telephone facsimile machine, computer, or other device to send an unsolicited facsimile advertisement. Would have excluded from the definition of an unsolicited facsimile document any document that is addressed to a recipient with whom the sender has an existing business relationship or that is sent at the request of, or with the express consent of, the recipient. Also would have imposed specified fines for violations of these provisions.

Failed in Assembly Business & Professions Committee

AB 2632 Daucher

Public Works Contracts: Payment Bonds

See Page (B9)

Failed
Assembly
Business &
Professions
Committee

AB 2724 Runner

Contractor Bonds

See Page (B9)

Dropped by Author

AB 2732 Washington

<u>Automatic Checkout Systems</u>

Requires businesses that use automatic checkout systems to ensure that the price of the good or service registered by the computer is conspicuously displayed to the consumer. Intends to protect consumers from retail stores that overcharge for purchases scanned via automatic checkout systems.

Enacted Chapter #818

AB 2816 Shelley

Workers' Compensation: Contractors: Temporary Labor

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #1098

AB 2820 Cardenas

Unsolicited Facsimiles

Would have deleted the state law governing unsolicited advertising faxes and would have permitted such faxes to be sent to individuals or businesses which were not on the Attorney General's "Do Not Call" list.

Failed in Senate Business & Professions Committee

AB 2870 Harman

Building Inspections: Liability

See Page (B9)

Failed Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 2873 Frommer	Accounting See Page (B1)	Enacted Chapter #230
AB 2944 Kehoe	Advertising: Facsimile Machines Repeals California's opt-out junk fax law in order to clarify that the much stronger federal prohibitions on unsolicited faxes are not superceded by California's more permissive law.	Enacted Chapter #700
AB 2970 Wayne	Accounting: Audits See Page (B1)	Enacted Chapter #232
SB 91 Figueroa	<u>Unlicensed Vehicle Dealers</u> See Page (A1)	Enacted Chapter #407
SB 170 Escutia	Insurers: Data Call: Enforcement See Page (A1)	Enacted Chapter #1076
SB 500 Torlakson	Retail Merchandise Utilities & Cable TV: Delivery Service & Repair Times	Enacted Chapter #279
	Enhances consumers' rights in regard to acceptable time frames for home delivery, service connection, or repair appointments by retailers and cable television/utility companies with 25 or more employees by requiring providers and consumers to agree to a four-hour time period in which the delivery, service or repair will take place and establishing notification procedures to be followed if the service appointment is delayed.	
SB 628 Figueroa	Consumer Warranties and Service Contracts Would have placed additional disclosure requirements regarding repair information on consumer warranties and service contracts. Specifically, this bill would have: 1) required consumer warranties to contain 12-point boldface type regarding repair information, and 2) required service contracts to indicate whether or not the merchandise can be repaired and picked up at the retail store of purchase.	Failed First House
SB 1102 Alarcon	Architectural and Engineering Services for Public Contracts See Page (B3)	Failed First House
SB 1144 Karnette	<u>Leased Motor Vehicles: Seatbelt Requirements</u> See Page (A1)	Failed First House
SB 1240 Figueroa	Advertising Extends existing law that prohibits the use of government-related logos, words, or symbols on advertisements. Applies to solicitations made via Internet web sites and e-mail.	Enacted Chapter #319

SB 1282 Haynes

California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority

Died on Senate Floor

Would have made a technical, nonsubstantive change to the California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority Act which establishes the California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority and prohibits the authority from investing in any nuclear facilities or developing additional hydroelectric facilities without first receiving specific statutory authorization to do so on a project-by-project basis.

SB 1332 Figueroa

Home Inspectors

Would have specified the requirements that a home inspector must meet to be entitled to use the term "certified home inspector"; made it an unfair business practice for an individual to refer to himself or herself as a "certified home inspector" unless he or she has met those requirements; and established disclosure statements that must be provided to prospective clients prior to any home inspection.

Failed
Assembly
Business &
Professions
Committee

SB 1357 Vincent

Pet Shops: Consumer Information

Requires a retail business that sells pet animals to provide written recommendations regarding the generally accepted care, housing, equipment, cleaning, environment, and feeding of that animal.

Enacted Chapter #710

SB 1358 Bowen

Advertising: Facsimile Machine

Would have deleted the existing state law prohibition relative to the faxing of unsolicited advertising material to make clear that the stronger federal law was enforceable in California. Upon defeat, the language from this bill was put into AB 2944 (Kehoe) which was enacted.

Failed in Assembly Business & Professions Committee

SB 1373 O'Connell

Dogs and Cats: Registration and Microchipping

Would have required pet dealers and breeders to register annually with the local animal control agency before being able to sell a dog or cat less than one year old. Pet dealers and breeders would have had to list the corresponding registration number in advertisements for the sale of the dog or cat, and ensure that the animal has been microchipped with the owner's identifying information. Would have allowed the local animal control agency

to charge a registration fee in excess of actual costs in order to fund programs relating to pet overpopulation.

Failed on Senate Floor

SB 1527 Burton

Accountants

See Page (B1)

Failed in Assembly Business & Professions Committee

AB 36 Steinberg

Secrecy Agreements: Public Information

Died in Senate Rules

Would have prohibited secrecy agreements in lawsuits based on bodily injury or wrongful death allegedly caused by a defective product or an environmental hazard in order to better protect consumers from injury or death caused by defective products or environmental hazards. Also would have created a presumption that specified information acquired through discovery or contained in settlement agreements and confidentiality agreements not filed with the court is public information and may not be kept confidential pursuant to an agreement of the parties. SB 11 is a similar bill. See page (A3).

AB 164 Harman

Special Education: Alternative Dispute Resolution

Vetoed

Would have required the State Department of Education to establish a statewide program of grant funding in support of special education alternative dispute resolution programs that meet specified criteria.

AB 227 Dutra

Unclaimed Property: Escheat

Enacted Chapter #22

Extends the deadline for participating in an amnesty program which provided relief from interest penalties for holders of unclaimed property who were delinquent in their duty to turn over property to the state.

AB 267 Steinberg

Construction Defects

Died at Senate

Desk

AB 363 Steinberg

Public Attorneys: Whistleblower Protections

Vetoed

See Page (C2)

See page (B9)

AB 421 Wayne

Depositions: Recording

Vetoed

Would have provided that a person who videotapes a deposition for use at trial need not meet the qualifications of a deposition officer. Also would have provided that the videographer may be an attorney, or may be an employee or independent contractor retained by the attorney taking the deposition.

AB 543 Vargas

Mechanics' Liens

Died in Senate

Rules

AB 568 Dutra

Mechanics' Liens

See Page (B9)

Died - Sent to Interim Study

See Page (B9)

AB 728 Correa

Contractors: Arbitration of Disputes

See Page (B9)

AB 752 Briggs AB 881 Simitian

Advertising Legal Services for Construction Defects

See Page (B9)

Failed First House

Confidential Information in Settlement Agreements

Would have provided that information not subject to disclosure in a court action may be sent to and reviewed by a governmental agency that is responsible for regulating the subject matter of the information, such as defective products or environmental hazards. This is one of three bills, including AB 36 and SB 11, that addresses confidentiality of settlement agreements.

Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 1106 Pescetti

Notaries Public: Escrow Instruments

Would have required that any escrow instrument purporting to obligate a third party in an amount over \$10,000 on behalf of a party to a real estate transaction, be acknowledged before a notary public.

Died in Senate Judiciary Committee

AB 1698 Committee on Judiciary

Legal Assistants

Makes changes to the registration of legal document assistants (LDA) and eliminates the sunset date on the existing LDA registration program.

Enacted Chapter #1018

AB 1699 Steinberg

Arbitration

Would have required an arbitration provider organization, if it was involved in the administration of an arbitration, to make available, upon the request of a party to the arbitration, its policy regarding issuance of written decisions.

Failed in Senate Judiciary Committee

AB 1772 Harman

Notice to Owners of Unclaimed Property.

Prescribes the notice and information that a bank or financial institution must give to owners of financial accounts that are about to escheat to the State under the Unclaimed Property Law (UPL). The same notice is required of other holders of tangible and intangible property subject to the Unclaimed Property Laws. This statute becomes operative January 1, 2004.

Enacted Chapter #813

AB 1839 Campbell, Bill

Indemnity: Public Agency

See Page (B9)

Died in Senate Judiciary Committee

AB 1981 Simitian

Discovery

Would have provided that, in a court action pertaining to a defective product or environmental hazard, as defined, a party may file a noticed motion for an order of the court permitting specific items or information subject to a protective order to be sent to a California state or federal governmental agency responsible for regulating or monitoring the subject matter contained in the items or information protected.

Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 1999 Correa

Immigration Consultants

Enacted Chapter #705

Authorizes the Attorney General (AG), the District Attorney (DA), and the City Attorneys to seek civil penalties in prosecuting cases in violation of the Immigration Consultants Act. Additionally, it specifically states that the AG, DA and City Attorney may bring civil actions for injunctive relief on behalf of the general public and, upon prevailing, recover reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

AB 2055 Pacheco, Robert

Attorney Work Product

Enacted Chapter #1059

Conforms state law to federal law which states that attorney work product protection does not apply when an attorney is suspected of a crime or fraud. Also provides that the statute of limitations would be suspended during the time when issues relating to the attorney-client privilege or the work product privilege are litigated.

AB 2216 Keeley

Intestate Succession: Domestic Partners

Enacted Chapter #447

Establishes intestate succession rights of domestic partners. Expands the legal rights of a registered domestic partner to include the right to inherit property if one partner dies without a will and contains a notification requirement by the Secretary of State to inform registered domestic partners and domestic partner applicants of this change.

AB 2291 Campbell, John

Legal Representation in Class Actions

Failed Assembly Judiciary Committee

Would have required an attorney seeking to represent an individual in a class action to first provide the court with written authorization from that person, as specified. Also would have required an attorney representing any party to a class action to provide every prospective client a good faith fee estimate, as specified.

AB 2493 Pacheco, Robert

Service of Process

Enacted Chapter #197

Updates four provisions of law dealing with the work of process servers (individuals who deliver legal papers in legal proceedings, and are either registered or a government official, such as a deputy sheriff, marshal or constable). Clarifies and updates procedural requirements regarding service of process (i.e. the prescribed method of delivering specified legal documents).

AB 2504 Jackson

Judges: Arbitration

Enacted Chapter #1094

Requires the disqualification of any judge who has arranged for future employment or other compensated service as a dispute resolution neutral or arbitrator, or who has had within the previous two years a discussion regarding that prospective employment or service. Requires an appointed neutral private arbitrator be required to make a disclosure of any similar arrangement or discussion.

AB 2517 Chan

Estate Planning Services: Financial Products

Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee

Would have regulated the sale of financial products by people providing estate planning services, which it would have defined as preparing, drafting, selecting, reviewing, explaining, or giving advice concerning an estate planning document.

AB 2574 Harman	Arbitration: Conflicts of Interest Prohibits financial conflicts of interest between private judging companies and the parties they serve in consumer arbitrations.	Enacted Chapter #952
AB 2656 Corbett	Arbitration: Private Arbitration Companies Requires private arbitration companies to collect and provide to the public specified data regarding the type, quantity, and certain particulars of consumer arbitrations they administer.	Enacted Chapter #1158
AB 2693 Wyman	Contractors: Limited Recovery See Page (B9)	Failed Senate Judiciary Committee
AB 2713 Cox	Professional Negligence See Page (B3)	Failed Assembly Judiciary Committee
AB 2723 Washington	Evidence: Admissibility Extends the rule of evidence to the admissibility of evidence of an admission of liability in proceedings pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.	Enacted Chapter #92
AB 2756 Canciamilla	Paralegals Would have required that a person represent himself or herself as a paralegal in order to be considered a paralegal and that the person be qualified by education, training, or work experience to be a paralegal. Also would have authorized a paralegal to perform specified tasks if the paralegal has been instructed to do so by a supervising attorney or has been authorized to do so by administrative, statutory, or court authority.	Failed in the Assembly Judiciary committee.
AB 2757 Calderon	Construction Defects Notice to Builders: Right to Repair See Page (B9)	Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee
AB 2914 Wiggins	Attorneys: Bankruptcy Would have required any attorney engaged in the private practice of law in this state to disclose to a prospective client prior to undertaking a case on behalf of the client whether the attorney or the law firm or law corporation for which he or she works is currently filing for bankruptcy or has filed for bankruptcy within the last 7 years.	Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee
AB 2915 Wayne	Arbitration Enacts rules for mandatory consumer arbitration fees. Prohibits "loser-pays" policies under which non-prevailing consumers are required to pay the fees and costs of the business entity they have entered arbitration with, and implements administrative fee waivers for indigent consumers, consistently with the longstanding practice of courts.	Enacted Chapter #1101

AB 2939 Pescetti

Attorneys: Legal Consumers' Protection Act

Would have enacted the Legal Consumers' Protection Act, which would have required a contingency fee attorney to make certain disclosures and report to a potential or existing client regarding (1) chances of success in the case, (2) estimated and actual attorney hours, (3) estimated fees, and (4) other fee information.

Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 2949 Wayne

Small Claims Court: Jurisdiction

Makes void and unenforceable any agreement entered into or renewed on or after January 1, 2003 that establishes a forum outside of California for an action arising from a consumer contract that is otherwise within the jurisdiction of a small claims court of this state.

Enacted Chapter #247

AB 3028 Judiciary Committee

Court Procedures

Makes technical clean-up and conforming amendments, addressing numerous miscellaneous issues pertaining to court administration and operations.

Enacted Chapter #1008

Vetoed

AB 3029 Steinberg

Consumer Arbitration Agreements: Private Arbitration Companies

Would have provided consulting and solicitation rules for arbitration companies and self-regulatory organizations involved in consumer arbitrations.

AB 3030 Corbett

<u>Arbitration</u>

Prescribes a penalty, at the discretion of the court, in the form of disgorgement (loss) of fees obtained by a private arbitration company in violation of ethical rules established by the other bills in the Assembly Judiciary Committee's arbitration bill package (AB 2574, AB 2915, and AB 3029). \square

Enacted Chapter #1159

AB 3031 Judiciary Committee

Direct Evidence

Would have made a technical, nonsubstantive change to the definition of direct evidence.

Died on Assembly Floor

ACR 123 Wayne

California Law Revision Commission: Studies

Grants approval to the commission to continue its study of designated topics that the Legislature previously authorized or directed the commission to study.

Enacted R-Chapter #166

SB 11 Escutia

Secrecy Agreements: Court Review

Would have prohibited stipulated protective orders without court review and private secrecy agreements in lawsuits based on great bodily injury or wrongful death allegedly caused by a defective product or an environmental hazard. Sponsored by the Attorney General and the Consumer Attorneys of California, this bill was intended to better protect Californians from injury or death caused by defective products or environmental hazards. AB 36 is a similar bill. See page (A3)

Died on Assembly Floor

SB 109 Ackerman	Unfair Practices: Representative Civil Actions Would have prohibited private attorneys representing their own interests or acting on the behalf of the public from bringing additional civil actions against a company for unfair business practices on which a settlement or judgement has already been made on the same issue.	Failed in Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 110 Dunn	Contracts: Breach of Confidentiality: Proprietary Information	Failed on Assembly Floor
Dum	Would have authorized, as of a specified date, the filing or maintenance of a claim in small claims court of no less than \$825, as defined, by an assignee, provided the assignee reduces his or her claim by 10% and pays a special filing fee, to be distributed as specified.	
SB 170	Insurers: Data Call: Enforcement	Enacted
Escutia	See Page (A1)	Chapter #1076
SB 355	<u>Liability: Construction Defects</u>	Died in Assembly Judiciary Committee
Escutia	See page (B9)	
SB 371	Courts: Interpreters	Enacted Chapter #1047
Escutia	See page (C2)	
SB 800	Liability: Construction Defects	Enacted Chapter #722
Burton	See page (B9)	
SB 805	Court Reporters: Depositions	Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee
McPherson	See page (B10)	
SB 938	Works of Improvement: Liens	Failed Assembly Judiciary Committee
Margett	See Page (B9)	
SB 1271	Nonprobate Transfers: Uniform TOD Security Registration Act	Enacted Chapter #67
Ackerman	Allows trust companies and trust departments of banks to issue and register securities under the Uniform transfer on death (TOD) Securities Registration Act.	
SB 1322 Ackerman	Debtor and Creditor Relations	Enacted Chapter #68
	Resolves several incongruities in the law regarding the execution of pre- judgment writs of possession and post-judgment seizures of property to satisfy a judgment.	

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SB 1325 Kuehl

Personal Jurisdiction: General Appearance

Enacted Chapter #69

Permits a defendant or cross-defendant to move to quash service of summons, move to stay or dismiss the action on the grounds of inconvenient forum, or move to dismiss for delay in prosecution, and simultaneously answer, demur, or move to strike the complaint or cross-complaint. Also specifies certain circumstances under which a party is not deemed to have made a general appearance for purposes of a court exercising its jurisdiction.

SB 1406 Kuehl

Mediation Proceedings

Died in Senate Rules

Would have enacted alternative provisions that would become operative only upon the appropriation of funds in the annual Budget Act, that would require the notice of mediation to state that all proceedings involving the mediator and the disputing parties shall be kept confidential between the mediator and the disputing parties and that the mediator may not make a recommendation to anyone other than the disputing parties, except as specified.

SB 1420 Johannessen

Vehicles: Noise Citations

Enacted Chapter #569

See Page (B34)

SB 1459 Romero

Unauthorized Practice of Law

Enacted Chapter #394

Enhances the misdemeanor penalties provided under existing law for any person who advertises or holds himself or herself out as practicing or entitled to practice law who is not an active member of the State Bar.

SB 1575 Sher

Wills and Trusts: Prohibited Transferees: Exceptions

Enacted Chapter #412

Makes some clarifying changes to the rule that voids transfers made through an instrument or will to specified persons who are disqualified due to a fiduciary relationship with the transferor.

SB 1707 Judiciary Committee

Arbitration: Standards of Ethics

Enacted Chapter #176

Clarifies that the ethics standards adopted for arbitrators in private contractual arbitration proceedings do not apply to public or private sector labor relations arbitration conducted pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement.

SB 1878 Poochigian

Will Contests

Enacted Chapter #150

Clarifies what actions constitute a contest for purposes of giving effect to or invalidating a no contest clause in a will, trust, or other estate planning instrument. The bill further lists actions that may not be considered "contests" as a matter of public policy, and provides exceptions to this rule.

SB 1897 Kuehl

State Bar of California

Enacted Chapter #415

Makes various changes to the State Bar Act regarding the Bar's internal structure and operations. Among these changes, enables the Bar to offer California's attorneys options such as online voting for members of the Bar's Board of Governors. Also provides for the transition to separate the Conference of Delegates from the Bar.

(4) CREDIT & FINANCIAL SERVICES

AB 21 Leslie

Financial Privacy: Opt-Out

Would have addressed financial privacy issues by requiring financial institutions to allow consumers to opt-out of having their personal information disclosed to third parties and affiliates. Also would have provided for oversight of financial privacy practices by the Department of Financial Institutions.

Failed in Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 203 Jackson

Financial Privacy: Opt-In

Would have addressed personal privacy issues by requiring financial institutions to obtain prior written consent from consumers (opt-in) to authorize disclosure of their personal information to third parties. Also would have provided court penalties and administrative fines for financial institutions that disclose their customers' personal information without proper consent, as well as civil remedies for consumers who are harmed by unauthorized disclosures.

Failed in Assembly Banking and Finance Committee

AB 371 Koretz

Free Consumer Credit Reports

Would have required consumer credit reporting agencies to notify consumers that the credit reporting agency will provide them with a free copy of their credit report when, within a 60-day period, the credit reporting agency receives five credit inquiries pertaining to the consumer, excluding prescreened or unsolicited pre-approved credit applications.

Died in Assembly Business and Professions Committee

AB 714 Firebaugh

Money Transmitters: Transmission of Money Abroad

Was intended to provide enhanced consumer protections relating to money transmitters by requiring more consumer disclosures and requiring money transmitters to provide the Department of Financial Institutions with quarterly reports on their exchange rates and exchange "spreads". Would have required the disclosure of exchange rates and fees charged by the money transmitter, and would have entitled consumers to receive refunds under specified circumstances.

Died in Senate Banking, Commerce & International Trade Committee

AB 1068 Wright

Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies and Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies: Technical Cleanup

Clarifies and modifies various provisions in the Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies Act and the Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies Act as cleanup to last year's AB 655 (Wright, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2001) by the same author.

Enacted Chapter #1030

AB 1531 Kehoe

Consumer Credit

Clean-up legislation that corrects the inadvertent chaptering-out of last year's AB 488 (Kehoe, Chapter 236, Statutes of 2001) by the subsequent signing of AB 655 (Wright, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2001) that affected the same section of the Civil Code.

AB 1581 Frommer

Payday Loans

Would have revised payday loan laws to increase consumer protections and placed more requirements on lenders. SB 898 is a similar bill that was enacted. See page (A4)

Died in Assembly Rules Committee

AB 2161 Maddox

Investigative Consumer Reports: Crimes

Would have allowed an investigative consumer report to include a felony committed by the subject longer than seven years ago, and also would have permitted a report to contain conviction information when a full pardon was granted, both of which are not permitted to be included in a report under existing law. Investigative consumer reports are used to screen applicants for a variety of reasons, including employment or housing.

Failed in **Senate Public** Safety Committee

AB 2293 Liu

Consumer Credit Counseling Organizations

Requires the Department of Corporations to conduct a study of the consumer credit counseling industry in California and to make certain recommendations to the Legislature by March 1, 2003. Also establishes new regulatory provisions relating to debt management or credit counseling services, including limitations on what fees can be charged and prohibiting up-front fees.

Enacted Chapter #779

AB 2573 Runner

Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies: Written Statements of Died in Senate Theft

Would have permitted an investigative consumer reporting agency to report to a potential or current employer that a person committed a theft if s/he voluntarily signed a written statement admitting to the theft, under specified conditions.

Public Safety Committee

AB 2868 Wright

Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies

Makes various revisions to last year's AB 655 (Wright, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2001) by the same author regarding investigative consumer reports that are used as a basis for offering employment, housing and insurance. Clarifies and modifies various provisions in the law relating to investigative consumer reporting agencies (ICRAs) and the information contained in the ICRA reports. Also provides a qualified privilege to an employer's statement as to whether or not the employer would rehire a current or former employee.

Enacted Chapter #1029

ACR 125 Papan

Financial Privacy Study

Requests and authorizes the California Law Revision Commission to study. report on, and prepare recommended legislation concerning the protection of personal information relating to or arising out of financial transactions by January 1, 2005, subject to funding in the 2002-03 Budget Act specified for this purpose.

Enacted R-Chapter #167

SB 387 Johnson

Consumer Credit Reports: Information to Consumers

Would have required consumer credit reporting agencies, when providing consumers with decoded written versions of their files, to provide that information in easily understood language.

Died in Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 608 Dunn

Mortgages: Home Loan Protection

Would have enacted the Home Loan Protection Act, which would have created consumer protections related to predatory home lending practices by prohibiting such practices by certain lenders and requiring such lenders to follow a specified procedure in assessing a potential borrower's ability to repay the loan. Also would have addressed civil remedies and required the Attorney General to act as a central clearinghouse for complaints against lenders and possible violations of the Act.

Died in Senate Banking, Commerce & International Trade Committee

Failed on

Senate Floor

SB 773 Speier

Financial Institutions: Confidential Consumer Information

Would have enacted the California Financial Information Privacy Act, which would have required financial institutions to provide a written form to consumers relative to the sharing of the consumer's confidential personal information. Would have required financial institutions to obtain prior customer consent before sharing confidential consumer information with nonaffiliated third parties (opt-in), and would have allowed consumers to indicate that they do not want their confidential consumer information shared with affiliates (opt-out).

SB 898 Perata

Check Cashers: Deferred Deposit Transactions

Enacts the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law to regulate persons engaged in the business of making or negotiating deferred deposit transactions and requires them to be licensed by the Department of Corporations.

Enacted Chapter #777

SB 1237 Speier

Account Identifier: Mother's Maiden Name

Would have helped prevent fraudulent activity related to identity theft by prohibiting banks from requiring or using an individual's mother's maiden name as a key identifier for establishing or accessing bank accounts. Mother's maiden name is easily acquired through public records and can be used in identity theft cases to fraudulently access financial accounts.

Failed in Assembly Banking and Finance Committee

SB 1239 Figueroa

Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies: Free Credit Reports

Requires consumer credit reporting agencies (CRAs) to provide identity theft victims with up to 12 free credit reports per year (one per month) upon submission of a valid police or DMV investigative report of identity theft. Requires CRAs to provide written notice of an identity theft's statutory rights under the Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies Act to potential identity theft victims and requires CRAs to include information in the statement of statutory rights required under current law to inform consumers of their rights as an identity theft victim.

Enacted Chapter #860

SB 1617 Karnette

Substitute Credit Cards

Requires a credit card issuer that issues a substitute credit card to provide an activation process where consumers are required to contact the card issuer to activate the credit card before it can be used.

SB 1730 Bowen

Personal Information

Enacted Chapter #786

Cleanup measure makes technical changes to last year's SB 168 (Bowen, Chapter 720, Statutes of 2001) by the same author by making clarifying changes to the provisions enacted in SB 168 that permitted security freezes on credit files and that restricted the use of Social Security numbers.

(5) HEALTH & SAFETY

AB 359 Cardoza Pool and Spa Safety

See page (B9)

Failed in Senate Health & Human Services Committee

AB 1362 Wiggins **Buildings: Rehabilitation**

See page (B9)

Died in Senate Housing & Community Development Committee

AB 2455

Swimming Pool Safety

Negrete McLeod

See page (B9)

Failed in Senate

Appropriations Committee

AB 2816 Shelley Workers' Compensation: Contractors: Temporary Labor

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #1098

SB 332 Sher **Building Standards: Straw-Bale Structures**

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #31

Failed First

House

SB 384 Burton **Gas Appliance Safety**

Would have enacted the Gas Appliance Safety Act of 2001 to require the installation of specified excess flow valves to automatically shut off the flow of gas to household gas appliances when a significant gas leak occurs or an overpressure surges. Also would have required the installation of excess flow valves by a licensed contractor whenever a building is newly constructed, reconstructed, or sold and require the Division of the State Architect to certify that the valves meet certain

standards.

SB 1144 Karnette **Leased Motor Vehicles: Seatbelt Requirements**

See page (A1)

Failed First House

SB 1726 Vasconcellos Pool and Spa Safety

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #679

SB 1734 Vasconcellos **Clean Needle and Syringe Exchange**

See Page (B25)

Vetoed

SB 1785 Vasconcellos

Hypodermic Needles and Syringes

Vetoed

See page (B25)

(6) HEALTH CARE/HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS /MANAGED CARE

AB 338 Correa **Nursing Education: Orange County Demonstration Project**

See page (B31)

Failed in Senate Appropriations

AB 982 Firebaugh

Health Care

See page (B11)

Enacted Chapter #1131

Committee

AB 1045 Firebaugh **Healing Arts: Practice**

See page (B11)

Enacted

AB 1140 Thomson **Shortage of Registered Nurses**

See page (B31)

Enacted Chapter #1089

Chapter #1157

AB 1158 Cardenas **Medical Professionals: Sex Offenses**

See Page (B19)

Died on Assembly Floor

Assembly Floor

Died on

AB 1321 Aroner **Health Care**

Would have created the Health Utilities Board, which would have been charged with providing comprehensive, quality health care to all Californians and controlling health care costs through rate-setting, eliminating waste and inefficiency, and achieving public accountability for meeting standards of high quality care.

AB 1562 Aanestad Telemedicine: Incentives

See Page (B19)

Died at Assembly Desk

AB 1745 Nakano **Emergency Services: Registry: Physicians**

See Page (B19)

Failed Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1787 Reyes **Hospitals: Study Regarding Consolidation**

Would have required the establishment of a workgroup by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to address and report on specified issues, to develop a plan regarding the opening of a consolidated hospital, and to develop suggested legislation to problems outlined in the report and plan. Also would have required the workgroup to submit its report and plan to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2004.

Failed Senate Health & Human Services Committee

AB 1853 Koretz

Health Care: Drug Costs

Would have required the State Department of Health Services, with regard to the purchase of any drug required in the treatment of life-threatening chronic conditions, to require the drug manufacturer to disclose to the department all costs incurred in the marketing of the drug to consumers and physicians, and would limit the price of any drug to which that requirement applies, as prescribed.

Failed Senate Health & Human Services Committee

AB 1914 Kehoe

Hearing Aids

See page (B16)

Enacted Chapter #704

AB 1946 Corbett

Written Materials for Patients

Requires specified printed materials that are provided to a patient by a general acute care hospital, skilled nursing, intermediate care, or nursing facility, or residential care facility for the elderly, to be printed in at least a 12-point font that is clear and legible. Further, requires that, upon admission of a patient, the facility shall ask if the patient wishes specified patients' rights information to be provided to the patient's next of kin or agent under a durable power of attorney for health care, and to provide that information if the patient so directs.

Enacted Chapter #550

AB 2067 Nakano

Nuclear Emergencies: Exposure to Radioactive Iodine

Requires the State Department of Health Services (DHS) to work with the potassium iodide (KI) working group, coordinated by the Office of Emergency Services, to develop and implement a program to oversee the distribution of KI tablets to all persons who reside, work, visit, or attend school within the state-designated emergency planning zone of an operational nuclear powerplant, in the event of an accident causing leakage of radioactive iodine. Requires DHS to report to the Governor and Legislature regarding these programs by December 31, 2003, and provides that its provisions would only be implemented to the extent that funds are appropriated for that purpose.

Enacted Chapter #852

AB 2194 Jackson

Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Requirements

See Page (B19)

Enacted Chapter #384

AB 2480 Wyman

Blood Tests

Would have allowed a certified phlebotomy technician to withdraw blood in any location and without direct supervision, at the direction and in the presence of a peace officer, for alcohol and drug testing in the context of a driving under the influence (DUI) investigation.

Failed Assembly Public Safety Committee

AB 2739 Chan

Health Care Coverage: Multilingual Information and Services

Vetoed

Would have required managed care plans contracting with the State Department of Health Services for the provision of services under the Medi-Cal program, and health care plans contracting with the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board for the provision of services under the Healthy Families Program, as well as the department and the board, to take prescribed actions to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to recipients of services under these programs.

In his veto message, the Governor stated that while he supported efforts to ensure that government services appropriately account for the many languages spoken in California, he preferred such requirements to remain in the purview of the contracting process, rather than be required by statute.

AB 2872 Thomson

Healing Arts: Physicians and Surgeons

Enacted Chapter #1136

See Page (B19)

SB 577 Burton

Health: Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practitioners

Enacted Chapter #820

See Page (B19)

SB 604 Vasconcellos

Health Care Service Plans and Disability Insurers

Failed Assembly Health Committee

Would have created the Health and Wellness Promotion Advisory Subcommittee under the Clinical Advisory Panel in the Department of Managed Health Care. The duties of this subcommittee would have been to advise and make recommendations to the Legislature pertaining to revisions of medical testing and services deemed by the subcommittee to be appropriate for the health promotion benefit required by the bill and to set and annually augment the maximum payment to providers for required testing and services.

SB 1092 Sher

Health Care Service Plans

Enacted Chapter #792

Requires the adoption of regulations by the Director of the State Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to establish the Consumer Participation Program, which would allow the awarding of reasonable advocacy and witness fees to any person who meets specified criteria who has made a substantial contribution on behalf of consumers to the adoption of any regulation, order or decision made by the director. Requires DMHC to report to the Legislature by March 1, 2004, and annually thereafter. Sunsets these provisions January 1, 2007.

SB 1162 Polanco

<u>University of California: Charles R. Drew/UCLA Undergraduate</u> <u>Medical Education Program</u>

Enacted Chapter #1140

See page (B19)

SB 1230 Alpert

Human Cloning

Enacted Chapter #821

Makes the temporary ban on human cloning, due to expire on January 1, 2003, permanent, and extends the ban to include human reproductive cloning, as defined. The bill also creates an advisory committee to advise the Legislature and the Governor on human cloning and related human biotechnology issues, and to report on its activities on December 31, 2003, and yearly thereafter.

SB 1272 Ortiz

Stem Cells: Human Tissue: Research

Died in Assembly Health Committee

Would have declared that the policy of the state shall be that research involving the derivation and use of human embryonic stem cells, human embryonic germ cells, and human adult stem cells, including somatic cell nuclear transplants, shall be permitted as specified. It would have authorized a donation of a human embryo pursuant to specific requirements and would prohibit the purchase or sale of embryo or cadaveric fetal tissue for research purposes.

SB 1301 Kuehl

Reproductive Privacy Act

Enacted Chapter #385

Deletes various obsolete statutory provisions regarding abortion and enacts in their place the Reproductive Privacy Act. The Act provides, among other things, that (1) every individual possesses a fundamental right of privacy with respect to reproductive decisions; and (2) the state shall not deny or interfere with a woman's right to choose an abortion prior to viability of the fetus, as defined in the Act.

SB 1324 Ortiz

Medical Evidentiary Examinations

Enacted Chapter #256

Makes changes in the law concerning the establishment of hospital-based centers for training medical personnel on how to perform medical evidentiary examinations of victims of physical or sexual child abuse or neglect, sexual assault, spousal abuse and elder abuse, including reducing the mandate for two centers, one each in northern and southern California, to one center statewide, as specified.

SB 1344 Haynes

Health Care: Denial of Desired Life-Sustaining Health Care

Died in Assembly Appropriations Committee

Would have required the Health and Human Services Agency to convene a work group consisting of specified members, subject to obtaining private or federal funds for this purpose. Would have required the work group to obtain a copy of the policies of California health care institutions pertaining to the denial of desired life-sustaining health care and to conduct a study of various issues regarding the implementation of those policies based on a 30% sampling of health care providers. The work group would have been required to report its findings and recommendations on designated issues to the Legislature prior to January 1, 2004, and would have limited the total cost of the study to not more than \$280,000 over a 2-year period.

SB 1379 O'Connell

Speech-Language Pathologists: Endoscopies

See page (B35)

SB 1411 Speier

Health Care Coverage: Maternity Services

Enacted Chapter #880

Prohibits a health care service plan and a disability insurer from imposing a copayment or deductible for health care or health insurance for specified maternity services that exceeds the most common amount of the copayment or deductible imposed for services provided for other covered medical conditions.

SB 1557 Battin

Human Cloning

Failed Senate
Health &
Human
Services
Committee

Would have defined "clone a human being" to mean engaging in human asexual reproduction, accomplished by introducing nuclear material from one or more human somatic cells into a fertilized or unfertilized oocyte, which has had its nuclear material removed or inactivated, so as to produce a living organism, at any stage of development, that is genetically virtually identical to an existing or previously existing human organism. Would have prohibited human reproductive cloning and therapeutic cloning. Would have established criminal penalties for violations of up to \$1,000,000 for corporations, firms, clinics, hospitals, laboratories, or research facilities and \$250,000 for individuals.

SB 1809 Machado

Clinical Laboratories

Enacted Chapter #356

Creates a new licensee category for medical laboratory technician. Requires the Department of Health Services to issue a medical laboratory technician license to each person who pays the license fee and meets specified licensure requirements. Also requires the department to adopt emergency regulations to implement licensure of medical laboratory technicians as soon as possible, and authorizes the department to establish licensing and renewal fees that do not exceed the costs of the department for the program.

The Governor's signing message directed the department to use existing personnel and resources for implementation of this bill.

SB 1907 Murray

Healing Arts: Referrals

Enacted Chapter #309

See page (B19)

SB 2027 Figueroa

Hospital Licensing

Vetoed

Would have prohibited the State Department of Health Services from issuing a license for a new general acute care hospital that would be located within the boundaries of a local health care district, unless the hospital seeking licensure agrees to maintain and operate emergency services, and does not limit its inpatient services to surgical services or invasive diagnostic and treatment procedures.

In his veto message, the Governor said that although this bill would have helped one hospital, it could potentially have a negative impact on surrounding hospitals.

(7) INSURANCE

AB 5 Calderon

Insurance Rates: Credit Ratings

Would have prohibited insurers from using credit ratings, credit reports, credit scoring models, or credit information to underwrite, classify, or rate certain automobile and property insurance policies. Would have also prohibited an insurer from refusing to issue those policies, or from non-renewing or canceling those policies, based upon credit grounds.

Died in Senate Insurance Committee

AB 264 Correa

Specialty-Trade Contractors

See Page (B9)

Enacted Chapter #311

AB 1488 Chavez

Insurance Premiums

Would have required the Insurance Commissioner to permit an optional rating factor of persistency based upon the persistent purchase of insurance from any insurer, and require the factor to be further implemented through regulation. This bill is similar to SB 689 (Perata, 2002), which was vetoed by Governor Davis.

Failed on Senate Floor

AB 1874 Horton

Insurance: License Renewal

Specifies the license renewal process for rental car agents and credit insurance agents. This bill was sponsored by the Department of Insurance.

Enacted Chapter #108

AB 1902 Reyes

Automobile Insurance: Damaged Child Safety Restraint Systems

Requires insurers to determine whether a child passenger restraint system was in use by a child during an accident and was damaged, and to replace the child passenger restraint system.

Enacted Chapter #703

AB 1978 Diaz

Insurance: Personal Liability Insurance

Would have authorized insurers to offer a discount on the coverage against liability for the payment of the premium charge for workers' compensation coverage to an insured if the insured makes specified representations and agrees to reimburse the insurer for the payment of any workers' compensation payments.

Died in Assembly Insurance Committee

AB 2007 Calderon

California Insurance Guarantee Association

Extends the two percent maximum surcharge on insurance premiums payable to California Insurance Guarantee Association for the purpose of funding payments to injured workers and other insured losses caused by insolvent insurance companies through 2007. The maximum surcharge will be lowered to one percent, beginning in 2008. See similar bill SB 2093 (Speier, Ch. 899, Statutes of 2002), on page (A7).

Enacted Chapter #431

AB 2012 Frommer

<u>Insurance</u>

Specifies that a warranty agreement offered by the warrantor of a vehicle protection product in connection with the sale of that product is an express warranty and not automobile insurance if certain requirements are met.

AB 2142 Financial Guaranty Insurance Enacted Chavez Chapter #84 Exempts certain obligations, such as asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities, from the requirement that at least 95 percent of a financial guaranty insurer's total net liability be investment grade. **Died in Senate AB 2169 Insurance: Annuities** Chavez Insurance Would have reduced the minimum legal rate of interest payable to those Committee who purchase deferred annuities during 2003 or 2004 by 50% (to 1%) during the life of the contract. **AB 2354 Incorporated Insurers: Derivative Transactions Enacted** Dutra Chapter #520 Repeals existing law that authorizes a domestic incorporated insurer to make specified investments that are traded on a regulated exchange or board of trade. Instead, AB 2354 enacts new provisions to authorize an insurer to engage in derivative transactions, as defined, subject to specified conditions. **AB 2778 Enacted** Insurance Calderon Chapter #347 Allows an insurer to make a significant change to the mutual fund investment options offered in connection with a variable annuity contract without prior approval or acknowledgement of the Insurance Commissioner. Also raises life insurance policies covering funeral or burial expenses sold by life agents with limited licenses from \$10,000 to \$15,000. **AB 2816** Workers' Compensation: Contractors: Temporary Labor **Enacted** Chapter #1098 Shelley See Page (B9) **AB 2856** Communications Equipment Insurance Agent Llicense Enacted Chavez Chapter #437 Creates a limited insurance license issued by the Insurance Commissioner for the offer and sale of insurance in connection with, and incidental to the sale or lease of communications equipment. **AB 2911 Died in Senate Regulated Service Contract Providers Vargas** Insurance Committee

Would have required the Insurance Commissioner to register and regulate certain providers that sell service contracts. Would have authorized these regulated providers to sell service contracts when specified conditions are met.

AB 2959 Insurance Horton

Would have required agents or representatives representing insurers in an insurer group to provide good driver coverage at the lowest rates applicable within the insurer group.

Died in First House

AB 2984 Committee on Insurance

<u>Depository Institutions: Production Agencies: Surplus Line Brokers:</u> Reinsurance Intermediaries

Enacted Chapter #203

Implements the California Department of Insurance alternative to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Model Act for achieving national reciprocity under the federal Gramm-Leach-Billey Act. Establishes provisions regulating retail sales practices, solicitations, advertising, and offers of any insurance product or annuity to a consumer by or on behalf of a depository institution.

AB 3023 Committee on Insurance

Insurance: Unfair Practices

Enacted Chapter #709

Authorizes administrative law judges (ALJs) from the Department of Insurance to hear cases involving allegations of unfair competition or unfair practices under the Insurance Code. Ensures that these ALJs are insulated from supervision by either the legal branch of the Insurance Department or the Insurance Commissioner.

SB 170 Escutia

Insurers: Data Call: Enforcement

Enacted Chapter #1076

Establishes civil penalties for the failure to comply with specified data calls (i.e., requests for data from insurers) required by the State Department of Insurance. Imposes a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 for each 30-day period that an insurer is not in compliance.

SB 180 Speier

Proof of Insurance: Vehicles

Enacted Chapter #666

Extends the operative date from January 1, 2004, until January 1, 2007, on repeal provisions which otherwise exempts the County of Los Angeles and the City and County San Francisco from the vehicle proof of insurance requirements.

SB 689 Perata

Auto Insurance

Vetoed

Would have required the Insurance Commissioner to permit an optional rating factor of persistency based upon the persistent purchase of insurance from an existing insurer or its affiliate, as well as any other insurer (portable persistency).

SB 1427 Escutia

Low-Cost Automobile Insurance

Enacted Chapter #742

Extends the sunset date of the low-cost auto (LCA) insurance pilot program; effective March 1, 2003, reduces the price of the LCA insurance policies; modifies the eligibility requirements; requires agents to inform potential LCA insurance policyholders of the availability of LCA insurance if the consumer requests a minimum or basic limits policy; and requires the Insurance Commissioner (IC) to annually prepare a plan for the Legislature on how the IC intends to inform eligible households of the availability of LCA insurance.

SB 1648 Speier

<u>Insurance</u>

Failed on Assembly Floor

Would have prohibited an insurer from having an ownership interest in an auto body shop (shop). Would have provided for divestment of ownership if existing upon the effective date of the act, and would have made it unlawful for an insurer to reward a person for referring an insured to a shop owned, in whole or part, by the insurer.

SB 1679 Polanco

<u>Insurance</u>

Would have required insurers to report community investments in their annual report to the Insurance Commissioner. Would have authorized the Department of Insurance to recognize in public announcements any insurer that invests at least 1/3 of one percent of California direct written premiums in community investments. Insurers that have been recognized by the Department would have been allowed to advertise that achievement.

Died in Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 1861 Alarcon

<u>Insurance</u>

Would have authorized the Insurance Commissioner to require insurers to annually report information regarding all community development investments and certain philanthropic grants made in California.

Died in Assembly Insurance Committee

SB 1880 Machado

Insurance: Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangements

Eliminates a sunset in existing law, thereby continuing state regulation of Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangements (MEWAs). The existing statute increases the amount of cash surplus MEWAs are required to maintain in order to be eligible for certification. Additionally the statute requires MEWAs to file, annually, with the State Insurance Commissioner an actuarial opinion that satisfies certain requirements.

Enacted Chapter #357

SB 1972 Polanco

Insurance: Surplus Lines

See page (B8)

Died at Assembly Desk.

SB 1974 Polanco

Insurance Policies

Allows the State Insurance Commissioner to approve insurance policies and associated materials in a foreign language provided, among other things, the "official" version of these documents is in English.

Enacted Chapter #358

SB 1978 Speier

Insurance Commissioner: Contributions

Would have prohibited a person licensed by the Insurance Commissioner, an officer or director of a person licensed by the Insurance Commissioner, and a person or committee, acting on behalf of a licensed person, from making a campaign contribution to the Insurance Commissioner, to any candidate for that office, or to any committee established or controlled by a candidate for the office of Insurance Commissioner for the purpose of electing that candidate to that office. Would have allowed an individual who is licensed by the Insurance Commissioner or who is an officer or director of a person licensed by the Insurance Commissioner to voluntarily make a contribution up to \$500 per election from that individual's personal funds.

Died in Assembly Elections, Reapportionment & Constitutional Amendments Committee

SB 1990 Burton

Insurers: Rate Approval Process

Would have required the Department of Insurance, in consultation with insurers and consumer groups, to conduct a study of the rate approval process relative to improving the expeditiousness of the rate approval process while ensuring sufficient opportunity for adequate review by the department. Would have required the department to report its findings to the Legislature on or before November 1, 2003.

Died in Senate Insurance Committee

SB 2034 Machado **Architects: Settlement or Arbitration Awards**

See page (B3)

Failed Senate Business & Professions Committee

SB 2076 Bowen **Vehicles**

See Page (A1)

Enacted Chapter #826

SB 2093 Speier <u>Insolvency</u>

Requires underwriters of defunct title companies to pay their pro rata share of Department of Insurance expenses. Additionally, the statute eliminates the use of surety bonds in lieu of deposits, to be used as a deposit by workers' compensation insurers.

Enacted Chapter #899

(8) INTERNET/ e-COMMERCE/ e-GOVERNMENT

AB 1814 Reves

Internet Service Providers: Notice of Service Termination

Vetoed

Would have required Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to give customers at least 30-day advanced written notice before terminating service or transferring customers to another ISP.

AB 2544 Campbell, Bill

Contractors: Home Improvement Salespersons

Enacted Chapter #372

See page (B9)

SB 1240 Figueroa

Advertising

Enacted Chapter #319

See Page (A2)

(9) MISCELLANEOUS CONSUMER ISSUES

AB 410 Salinas

Rural Programs

Enacted Chapter #558

Revises the composition and duties of the California Rural Policy Task Force, within the Office of Planning and Research and requires the task force to develop a strategic plan before June 1, 2004.

AB 555 Dutra

Common Interest Development Managers

Enacted Chapter #1116

Provides title protection to a qualified person who undertakes the management of a common interest development for compensation and who uses the title of "certified common interest development manager".

AB 643 Lowenthal

Common Interest Developments: Community Association Assessments

Enacted Chapter #1117

Requires all common interest development (CID) associations to file with the Secretary of State a document of specified information about the CID, including the address and either a daytime phone number or the e-mail address of the president of the association and the name, address and daytime phone number of the association's managing agent. Also authorizes the Secretary of State to charge a fee not to exceed \$30.

AB 875 Horton

Auctioneers and Auction Companies

Would have enacted the Auctioneer and Auction Company Registration Act (Act). Would have provided that auctioneers and auction companies must register with the county clerk of the county in which the auctioneer or auction company has its principal place of business, and in which the auctioneer or auction company maintains a branch office.

Died in Senate Business & Professions Committee

AB 1170 Firebaugh

Housing: Downpayment Assistance

Establishes the Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods (BEGIN) Program and (BEGIN) Fund, which assists qualifying new homebuyers to make downpayments. Its provisions are predicated upon the enactment of the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Act Fund of 2002 which was passed by the voters on November 5, 2002.

Enacted Chapter #724

AB 1433 Horton

Military Service: Benefits

Provides protections for membets of the National Guard or reservists of the United States Military Reserve during their period of military service with respect to, among other things, court proceedings, contract obligations, rental agreements, taxes or assessments, and health or medical insurance.

Enacted Chapter #60

AB 1701 Steinberg

Common Interest Developments: Construction and Design Defects

Would have: 1) Corrected the term "facility" to "facilitator", 2) Corrected the term "proceedings" to "proceeding", 3) Clarified that the term notice in subsection (2) of Section 1375 of the Civil Code means Notice of Commencement of Legal Proceeding to avoid confusion with the several other notice requirements in the section, and 4) Defined construction defect to mean a defect in design, materials, or workmanship that occurs during the original construction, or in connection with any warranty repair work, and as it applies in the case of a common interest development, includes construction or repair work in all common areas.

Failed Senate Judiciary Committee

AB 1866 Wright

Housing: Density Bonuses

Requires local governments to use a ministerial process for approving second housing units. Prohibits them from applying any development standard that will have the effect of excluding an affordable housing development from receiving a density bonus and concessions.

Enacted Chapter #1062

AB 1926 Horton

Housing: Discrimination

Allows any person holding a recorded interest in property containing an unlawfully discriminatory restrictive covenant to strike the covenant upon application to the county recorder's office.

AB 2009 Nakano

Swap Meets, Flea Markets, and Open-Air Markets

Enacted Chapter # 334

Redefines the term "swap meet" to include open air market and flea market and creates special reporting requirements for vendors and operators of swap meets who sell or display new merchandise.

AB 2086 Bogh

Consumer Goods: Warranties: Service and Repair Facilities

See page (B12)

Died in Senate Judiciary & Business & Professions Committee

AB 2289 Kehoe

Common Interest Developments

Makes changes to the procedures used by homeowner associations in regard to collecting delinquent assessments.

Enacted Chapter #1111

AB 2330 Migden

Landlord and Tenant

Specifies parameters for landlords' handling of tenants' security deposits and requires landlords to inspect properties prior to a tenant's move-out date. Furthermore, allows tenants to know exactly what repairs and/or maintenance is required to receive a full refund of their security deposit by requiring landlords to specify in writing after the initial inspection of the dwelling.

Enacted Chapter #1061

AB 2331 Wayne

Waivers: Consumer Protection Statutes

Protects consumers from being defrauded by businesses that convince them to waive their rights guaranteed under various consumer protection statutes by declaring that the waiver of existing consumer protection statutes is void and unenforceable. Adds these anti-waiver provisions to 21 consumer protection statutes regarding, among other things, credit card disclosures, debit cards, credit discrimination, consumer reporting agencies, fair debt collection, gift certificates, supermarket club cards, confidentiality of social security numbers, and destruction and disposition of customer records containing personal information.

Enacted Chapter #815

AB 2344 Correa

<u>Pawnbrokers</u>

Permits pawnbrokers to store pawned property off premises and makes various conforming changes to accommodate off-premise storage of pawned goods. Provides pawnbrokers with greater flexibility in payment options and in delivery options for the notice of loan expiration. Clarifies what types of fees are permissible in loan extensions.

Enacted Chapter #404

AB 2379 Frommer

Department of Justice Secondhand Dealer Web site

Requires a secondhand dealer, coin dealer, or pawn broker to make all required transaction reports to the Department of Justice Secondhand Dealer Web Site, beginning 12 months after the web site becomes fully operational, rather than to the chief of police or the sheriff. Requires a fingerprint taken by a secondhand dealer or coin dealer of an intended seller to be retained for three years. Requires a secondhand dealer or coin dealer to retain hard copies of any required reports for three years.

Died in Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2417 La Suer	Common Interest Developments: Meetings Requires any matters discussed in executive session of a common interest development be generally noted in the next meeting open to all members of the association and also specifies that attorney-client communications may be discussed in closed executive sessions.	Enacted Chapter #195
AB 2545 Nation	Housing Code Inspections See Page (A2)	Failed Senate Housing & Community Development
AB 2546 Nation	Common Interest Developments: Marketing and Sales Prohibits a common interest development from promulgating a rule or regulation that arbitrarily or unreasonably restricts an owner's ability to market his/her separate interest. Also prohibits an association from imposing a fee that exceeds the actual or direct costs for the service provided in connection with the marketing of an owner's separate interest.	Enacted Chapter #817
AB 2822 Chavez	Carnival Ride Operators Would have regulated the industry of carnival ride operators, as defined, by providing specific requirements that employers of carnival ride operators must implement with regard to carnival ride operator wages, hours, breaks, tools, and working conditions. The bill would have established specified penalties for employers who fail to comply with these provisions.	Failed in Assembly Labor & Employment Commission
AB 2853 Diaz	State Employees: Engineers: Salary Parity See Page (B13)	Vetoed
AB 3038 Judiciary Committee	Landlord and Tenant Would have made technical, nonsubstantive changes to law that requires that a building intended for human occupation, in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, be tenantable and fit for human habitation.	Died on Assembly Floor
SB 91 Figueroa	<u>Vehicles: Dealers: Prohibited Activities</u> See Page (A1)	Enacted Chapter #407
SB 371 Escutia	<u>Courts: Interpreters</u> See Page (C2)	Enacted Chapter #1047
SB 384 Burton	Gas Appliance Safety See page (A5)	Failed First House
SB 500 Torlakson	Retail Merchandise Utilities and Cable Television: Delivery Service and Repair: Times See Page (A2)	Enacted Chapter #279

SB 617 Ortiz

Tenancy: Terminations

Died on **Assembly Floor**

Would have provided tenants who had been subjected to notices of mass eviction without additional time to relocate and find suitable replacement housing. The provisions of this bill would have applied retroactively to February 1, 2002 and sunset in January 1, 2005.

SB 774 Margett

Recreational Vehicles

See Page (A1)

Failed in **Assembly Appropriations** Committee

SB 1210 Romero

Live Animal Exhibition: Local Notification

Failed on **Senate Floor**

Sought to enhance public safety relating to escaped animals by requiring any traveling circus or carnival to provide local animal control services with: 1) a plan for the recapture or destruction of an escaped animal; 2) a list of names and credentials for its animal keepers; and 3) a list of animals it intends to exhibit, including any previous history of incidents of escape and/or injuries to humans associated with any animal being exhibited.

SB 1353 Perata

Harbors: Monterey Bay and the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, Enacted and Suisun: Pilotage Rates

Chapter #765

This statute is the periodic update of the incremental changes in the rates and special surcharges that bar pilots impose on vessels that move in and out of the bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, Suisun and specified inland tributaries. The provisions will sunset as of January 1, 2006.

SB 1383 Bowen

Electronic Mail: Service Providers

Died in **Assembly** Judiciary Committee

Would have required electronic mail service providers to provide customers with 30 days notice prior to terminating the customer's service. Would have preempted all local government entity rules and regulations regarding notice of electronic mail termination and would have become inoperative if federal law were to be enacted on this issue.

SB 1403 Kuehl

Landlord-Tenant

Enacted Chapter #301

Requires landlords to give long-term tenants 60 days notice when terminating a month-to-month tenancy. Also requires landlords to provide tenants with written notice before entering a tenant's residence, except in an emergency or when the tenant has abandoned or surrendered the residence. Closes loopholes in the existing rent control law.

SB 1571 Ackerman

Common Interest Developments: Plans: Amendments & Revocations

Would have permitted a condominium plan to be amended or revoked by a subsequent recorded instrument executed by 2/3 of the persons whose signatures are required pursuant to specified provisions.

Failed in Senate Housing & Community Development Committee

SB 1576 Bowen

Landlords: Disclosure of Demolitions

Enacted Chapter #285

Requires the owner or landlord of a residential dwelling unit who has applied to a public agency for a permit to demolish that dwelling unit to give written notice of the impending demolition to a current tenant, and to any prospective tenant prior to the execution of a rental agreement.

SB 1601 Bowen

Cellular Telecommunications Service

Died on Senate Floor

Would have required that providers of cellular radiotelephone service extend a minimum 14-day grace period to new customers during which the customer could have rescinded the agreement, without cost or penalty, if the customer found that the cellular service quality was unsatisfactory, except that the customer would have been required to pay for those services used prior to the cancellation of the agreement. Would further have required that providers of cellular radiotelephone service provide notice to consumers of these rights. Also would have excepted commercial accounts and contracts where customers were not required to purchase more than one month of service, from these requirements.

SB 1765 Bowen

Warranty Cards and Product Registration Cards

Enacted Chapter #306

Requires warranty or product registration cards or forms, including online forms, to disclose that they are for product registration and that failure to return the form does not diminish the purchaser's warranty rights. Also prohibits the cards from being labeled warranty registration or warranty confirmation. Becomes effective January 1, 2004, but does not apply to cards that were printed and included in merchandise prior to January 1, 2004.

SB 1779 Burton

<u>Damages: Childhood Sexual Abuse: Statute of Limitations</u>

Enacted Chapter #149

Extends retroactively the statute of limitations in childhood sexual abuse cases against a third party when the third party knew or had reason to know of complaints against an employee or agent for unlawful sexual conduct and failed to take reasonable steps to avoid similar unlawful conduct by that employee or agent in the future. Including preventing placement of that person in a function in which contact with children is an inherent part.

SB 1780 Escutia

Courts: Domestic Violence: Interpreters

Failed in Senate Appropriations Committee

Would have required the appointment in domestic violence proceedings, as specified, and in other settings mandated by the court, of an interpreter for a person who is deaf or hearing impaired as well as the appointment of a foreign language interpreter for a person not proficient in English. It would have required certified or registered sign language interpreters in these proceedings; and would limit the services of foreign language interpreters to certified or registered interpreters.

SB 1821 Dunn

Assisted Housing

Enacted Chapter #1038

Clarifies that tax-credit financed units are subject to notice and sale requirements. The statute also makes technical amendments to other unrelated statutes.

SB 1843 Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review

State and Local Government

Would have enacted the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act of 2002; establishing licensing requirements for cigarette and tobacco products retailers, wholesalers and importers; creating enhanced cigarette tax compliance and enforcement program; revising the cigarette "distributor discount" for applying tax stamps; appropriating funds to implement the program in 2002-03; and establishing an ongoing funding mechanism for the program.

Died on Assembly Floor

Vetoed

SB 1891 Perata

Bicycle Theft: Internet Registration

Would have authorized an Internet bicycle registration service to register bicycles and issue bicycle licenses. A bicycle registered with a service, established in an appropriate ordinance or resolution by a city or county, would have been considered registered and licensed in accordance with existing law.

(10) NEW/PROPOSED REGULATORY PROGRAMS

No bills introduced in the 2002 legislative session

(11) PRIVACY/IDENTITY THEFT

AB 21 Leslie

Financial Privacy: Opt-Out

See Page (A4)

Failed Assembly Judiciary Committee

AB 203 Jackson

Financial Privacy: Opt-In

See Page (A4)

Failed
Assembly
Banking and
Finance
Committee

AB 700 Simitian

Personal Information: Breach of Security Disclosure

Effective July 1, 2003, requires any state agency, person or business doing business in California that owns or licenses computerized data systems containing personal information to expediently notify California residents whose unencrypted personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person. Allows a delay in consumer notification for the entity to investigate and restore integrity to the system, or if law enforcement determines the notification would impede a criminal investigation. Provides alternative low-cost notice options (posting on a website and notifying major statewide media) if the cost to notify consumers exceeds \$250,000 or if there are over 500,000 consumers subject to the notification. Also creates two "safe harbors" for entities that encrypt the personal information contained in their data systems or that utilize their own expedient notification procedures as part of an information security policy.

AB 784 Hertzberg

Privacy Protection: Customer Records

See Page (A2)

Died in Senate Local Government Committee

AB 1010 Dutra

DMV Website: Identity Theft Information

Would have expanded the consumer protection information posted on the Department of Motor Vehicles' Internet website to assist consumers who plan to purchase or have purchased a vehicle to include contact information for government, law enforcement, and consumer agencies that assist victims of identity theft. This bill was substantially amended by Assembly Member Correa on August 19, 2002 and the enacted statute no longer pertains to DCA.

Enacted Chapter #688

AB 1155 Dutra

Identity Theft: Criminal Penalties

Creates a new misdemeanor crime for anyone who obtains or assists in obtaining a fraudulent Department of Motor Vehicle document (driver's license, identification card, etc.) when that person is not entitled to the document. Also creates an enhanced fine of up to \$25,000 for individuals who receive a felony conviction for conspiring to commit identity theft.

Enacted Chapter #907

AB 1219 Simitian

Identity Theft: Criminal Procedure

Revises existing law relating to judicial determinations of factual innocence for identity theft victims whose names have been mistakenly associated with a criminal record. Increases convenience for identity theft victims by permitting the prosecutor or court to file a motion for an expedited judicial determination of factual innocence, instead of requiring the victim to file the motion themselves as required under existing law. Also allows a court to order the victim's name and personal identifying information contained in court records, files, and public indexes to be deleted, sealed, or labeled to show that the victim's data was impersonated.

Enacted Chapter #851

AB 1474 Koretz

Driver's License and Identification Card Fee Increase: Identity Theft

Would have required the Department of Motor Vehicles to create a fingerprint identification system based on the fingerprints of those applying for driver's licenses to cross reference them with all other fingerprints in the database in order to ensure that each individual is issued only one driver's license and to stop identity theives from fraudulently obtaining a driver's license using another person's name. Also would have increased driver's license and identitification card fees to fund this system.

Died in Senate Rules Committee

AB 1754 Leslie

<u>Criminal Penalties: Identity Theft Conspiracy</u>

Would have created a new misdemeanor crime and increased fines for a person, other than a Department of Motor Vehicle employee, to conspire to obtain DMV documents for the purpose of committing identity theft. Would have created a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in county jail and/or a fine of up to \$50,000 if the person: 1) conspired to obtain an official DMV document (e.g. drivers' license); 2) acted with knowledge that a co-conspirator is not legally entitled to obtain that document; and, 3) intended to use the DMV document to commit identity theft.

Died in Senate Public Safety Committee

AB 1764 Wayne

False Impersonation: Electronic Mail

Public Safety
Committee
erson
email

Would have expanded the definition of false impersonation to include electronic mail (email) and would have made it a misdemeanor for a person to falsely impersonate another by sending an email using the email address of another person or the name of another person with the intent to make the recipient believe that it is from the person falsely personated.

AB 1773 Wayne

Identity Theft Jurisdiction

Enacted Chapter #908

Died in Senate

Assists prosecutors in bringing identity thieves to justice by allowing local prosecutors to prosecute an identity theft case in either the jurisdiction where the information was stolen or the jurisdiction where the defendant used the stolen personal information. Allows multiple offenses committed in multiple jurisdictions by the same defendant using the same stolen information to be prosecuted in any one of those jurisdictions, which would reduce the number of times a victim would have to testify and reduce costs to the state for prosecution.

AB 1944 Wright

Identity Theft: Fingerprint Verification Upon Arrest

Died on Senate Floor

Would have enhanced protection for criminal identity theft victims by authorizing a peace officer to fingerprint an arrestee when s/he does not have valid identification. If the arrestee gave a false identity to law enforcement, this bill would have given the identity theft victim a means to disprove his or her involvement in the crime by matching their fingerprint with that of the thief's fingerprint taken at arrest, thereby proving that the victim is not the same person as the thief.

AB 2238 Dickerson

Public Safety Officials Home Protection Act

Enacted Chapter #621

Enacts the Public Safety Officials Home Protection Act to protect the personal information of public safety officials by prohibiting state or local agencies from posting a public safety official's home address or telephone number on the Internet without the official's written authorization and creates new crimes for violations. Also requires the Department of Justice to chair an advisory task force to determine how to protect a public official's home information and recommend a comprehensive plan to the Legislature by September 1, 2003. The task force is to be comprised of interested state enforcement entities (DOJ, the California Highway Patrol), the Office of Privacy Protection within the Department of Consumer Affairs, the judicial community, the legal community, and various entities related to real estate transactions.

AB 2297 Simitian

Online Privacy and Disclosure Act of 2002

Vetoed

Would have enacted the Online Privacy and Disclosure Act of 2002, which would have required online businesses to clearly post and comply with their online privacy policies, and further required the privacy policies to identify the categories of information that it collects about individuals through the Internet and the categories of persons or entities with whom the information is shared.

AB 2456 Jackson

Employment of Offenders: Personal Information

Enacted Chapter #196

Expands the list of personal information that prison and county jail inmates and Youth Authority wards are denied access to when performing various duties or employment. Also includes any person assigned to community service in that restriction.

AB 2578 Corbett

Mail Solicitation: Pre-Acquired Account Marketing

Enacted Chapter #1097

Would have prohibited mail solicitations from charging consumers for a product or service unless the consumers expressly consented to purchase the product or service and gave the last four digits of their billing information to the solicitor. This bill was substantially amended by Assembly Member Shelley on August 31, 2002 and the enacted statute no longer pertains to DCA.

AB 2775 Steinberg

Telemarketing: Pre-Acquired Account Marketing

Died in Senate Judiciary Committee

Would have prohibited telephone solicitors from charging consumers for a product or service unless the consumers expressly consented to purchase the product or service and gave the last four digits of their billing information to the solicitor. This bill was substantially amended by Assembly Member Migden on August 22, 2002 and no longer pertains to DCA.

AB 2832 Shelley

Voter Information: Privacy

Enacted Chapter #959

Makes various changes to the Elections Code regarding the privacy of voters' personal information. Among these changes, the bill requires the Secretary of State to appoint a task force to study and recommend appropriate standards for safeguarding voter registration information.

AB 2922 Simitian

Personal Information: State Agency Record Inventory

Vetoed

Would have required the Office of Privacy Protection to create and maintain a State Personal Information Inventory, which would have allowed the public to see what types of personal information the state collects, what the state does with that information, and how an individual can access his or her information.

ACR 125 Papan

Financial Privacy Study

Enacted R-Chapter #167

See Page (A4)

SB 113 Haynes

Pupil and Family Privacy

Failed Senate Education Committee

Would have prohibited the physical examination of a pupil under the age of 12 without a parent's consent, prohibited a pupil's Social Security number from being used as a personal identifier, except where required by federal law, and prohibited schools from conducting surveys of pupils.

SB 169 Bowen

Biometrics Technology

Died in Assembly Judiciary Committee

Would have defined biometric identifier and facial recognition technology, and would have set forth the Legislature's intent regarding biometrics technology.

SB 247 Speier

Birth and Death Records: Access to Certified Copies

Enacted Chapter #914

Intends to limit the fraudulent use of birth certificates in identity theft by controlling and limiting the release of and access to birth and death certificates. Limits who can receive certified copies, and requires non-certified copies to be stamped "for informational purposes only: not to be used as a basis for proving identity."

SB 661 Dunn

DMV: Biometric Identifiers

Died in Senate Transportation Committee

Would have required the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to create a biometric identifier from applicants' fingerprints to ensure that applicants are only issued one driver's license or identification card. Also would prohibit the DMV from providing this information to any third party.

SB 773 Speier

Financial Institutions: Confidential Consumer Information

Failed on Senate Floor

See Page (A4)

SB 1237 Speier

Account Identifier: Mother's Maiden Name

See Page (A4)

Failed in Assembly Business & Professions Committee

SB 1239 Figueroa

Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies: Free Credit Reports

Enacted Chapter #860

See Page (A4)

SB 1254 Alpert

Identity Theft: Criminal Definition

Enacted Chapter #254

Creates a new misdemeanor crime for anyone to possess specified personal identifying information (PII) of another person with the intent to defraud. Also expands the definition of identity theft by expanding what constitutes PII to include additional personal information (i.e., birth/death information), numbers and codes (i.e., tax ID numbers), unique electronic data (i.e., routing codes), and biometric identifiers (i.e., fingerprints).

SB 1259 Ackerman

Payment Card Theft: Criminal Penalties

Enacted Chapter #861

Creates a new misdemeanor crime to knowingly, and with the intent to defraud, possess or use a scanning device or re-encoder to access or store information encoded on the magnetic strip of a payment card. Also provides for the destruction of the devices and allows for the seizure of various other computer equipment used to store illegally-obtained data.

SB 1386 Peace

Personal Information: Breach of Security Disclosure

Enacted Chapter #915

Effective July 1, 2003, requires any state agency, person or business doing business in California that owns or licenses computerized data systems containing personal information to notify California residents of a security breach when their information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person. Allows a delay in consumer notification for the entity to investigate and restore integrity to the system, or if law enforcement determines the notification would impede a criminal investigation. Provides alternative low-cost notice options (posting on a website and notifying major statewide media) if the cost to notify consumers exceeds \$250,000 or if there are over 500,000 consumers subject to the notification. Also creates two "safe harbors" for entities that encrypt the personal information contained in their data systems or that utilize their own expedient notification procedures as part of an information security policy.

SB 1614 Speier

Birth and Death Records: Public Disclosure

Enacted Chapter #712

Exempts specified birth and death indices from disclosure under the California Public Records Act and requires the State Registrar to establish separate non-comprehensive indices for public release that do not contain Social Security numbers or mother's maiden names. Requires requestors of the indices to provide proof of identity and sign a standard form certfying, under penalty of perjury, that they will comply with prescribed guidelines for use of the indices.

SB 1730 Bowen

Personal Information

Enacted Chapter #786

See Page (A4)

(12) TELECOMMUNICATIONS

AB 839 Lowenthal

Unsolicited Facsimile Transmissions

See Page (A2)

Failed in Senate Business & Professions Committee

AB 1769 Leslie

<u>Advertising: Unsolicited Cell Telephone and Pager Text Messages</u>

Enacted Chapter #699

Prohibits the sending of unsolicited or unwanted text messages to cellular phones and pagers.

AB 2568 Campbell, John

Advertising

See Page (A2)

Failed in Assembly Business & Professions Committee

AB 2820 Cardenas

Unsolicited Facsimiles

See Page (A2)

Failed in Senate Business & Professions Committee AB 2944 Advertising: Facsimile Machines Enacted Kehoe Chapter #700 See Page (A2) AB 2958 **Telecommunications: Regulatory Framework** Failed in Senate Wright **Energy, Utilities** Would have stated legislative intent to maintain the progress created by the California Public Utilities Commission's new regulatory **Communications** framework for telecommunications companies. SB 500 Retail Merchandise Utilities and Cable Television: Delivery Enacted Torlakson Service and Repair: Times Chapter #279 See Page (A2) SB 772 **Electronic Mail: Service Providers** Enacted Bowen Chapter #783 Requires electronic mail service providers to provide customers a 30day notice prior to terminating her/his electronic mail address without cause. Preempts all local government entity rules and regulations regarding notice of electronic mail termination and becomes inoperative if federal law is enacted on this issue. **SB 1258** "Do Not Call" List: Subscription Fee **Died in Senate Business &** Dunn Would have deleted the triennial \$1.00 subscription fee to be charged **Professions** to consumers for subscribing to the new state "do not call" list that will Committee become operative on January 1, 2003. SB 1358 Advertising: Facsimile Machine Failed in Assembly Bowen See Page (A2) **Business & Professions** Committee SB 1383 **Electronic Mail: Service Providers Died in Assembly** Judiciary Bowen See Page (A9) Committee SB 1560 "Do Not Call" List: Cleanup Legislation Enacted **Figueroa** Chapter #698 Cleanup legislation to last year's statute that enacted the telemarketing "Do Not Call" list (SB 771, Figueroa, Chapter 695, Statutes of 2001) that clarifies which businesses may obtain the telemarketing "Do Not Call" list free of charge, and clarifies that only the Attorney General (AG) may sell the list and make it a violation to purchase the list from anyone other than the AG. Also extends the implementation date from January 1, 2003 to April 1, 2003. **Telecommunications: Services** SB 1563 Enacted **Polanco** Chapter #674 Expands California's codified telecommunications policy declarations. and requires the State Public Utilities Commission to develop a plan encouraging widespread of advanced for availability telecommunications infrastructure.

(13) UTILITIES

AB 58 Keeley

Net Energy Metering

Enacted Chapter #836

Eliminates a sunset on net-metering authorization to allow net-metering for systems up to one megawatt to continue indefinitely; requires the California Energy Commission (CEC), in administering the "public goods" charge funds, to establish a separate rebate for eligible emerging renewable technologies for affordable housing projects and allows CEC to set reasonable limits on the total amount of funds so dedicated.

AB 117 Migden

Electrical Restructuring: Aggregation

Enacted Chapter #838

Authorizes utility customers to aggregate their electrical loads as members of their local community with community choice aggregators, as defined, and requires a community choice aggregator to file an implementation plan with the Calforinia Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to determine a cost-recovery mechanism to be imposed on the community choice aggregator to prevent a shifting of costs to an electrical corporation's bundled customers. Also requires the PUC to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before January 1, 2006, a report on community choice aggregation.

AB 2228 Negrete McLeod

Public Utilities: Net Energy Metering

Enacted Chapter #845

Creates a pilot program to provide net energy metering for eligible bio-gas digester customer-generators that enhances the continued diversification of California's energy resource mix and encourages the installation of livestock air emission controls that the State Air Resources Board believes may produce multiple environmental benefits. Also defines an "eligible biogas digester customer-generator" and prescribes conditions under which customers may participate in the net energy metering pilot program which sunsets January 1, 2006.

AB 2432 Pacheco, Rod

Public Utilities: Property: Condemnation: Unauthorized Entry

Failed in Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee

See Page (A2)

AB 2663 Wyman

Electricity: Baseline Quantities and Rates

Failed in Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee

Would have prohibited the Calfiornia Public Utilities Commission from increasing charges for residential customers for baseline quantities or usage by those customers of up to 130 percent of baseline quantities, to reflect the addition of a separate baseline for average senior residential customers.

SB 500 Torlakson

Retail Merchandise Utilities and Cable Television: Delivery Service and Repair: Times

Enacted Chapter #279

See Page (A2)

SB 530 Sher

Renewable Energy

Would have reinstated, continued, and modified components of the Renewable Energy Program Investment Plan and the Public Interest Energy Research within the California Public Utility Commission and required the Calfornia Energy Commission to use a portfolio approach to achieve the goal of developing renewable energy facilities and markets as part of the state's overall electricity generation network.

Died in Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee

SB 1270 Peace

Independent System Operator

Would have made a technical, nonsubstantive change to existing law that requires the Independent System Operator to ensure efficient use and reliable operation of the state's electricity transmission grid.

Died in Senate Rules Committee

SB 1282 Haynes

California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority

See Page (A2)

Died on Senate Floor

SB 1330 Brulte

Gas Corporation: Rates

Would have declared the Legislature's intent to enact, in subsequent legislation, a remediation of the rapid inflation of price for natural gas in communities served by the Southwest Gas Company and to provide for the stabilization of natural gas prices in the future.

Failed Senate Energy, Utilities & Commerce Committees

SB 1524 Sher

Renewable Energy: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Failed Program Assem

Would have established the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program to require that a retail seller of electricity, including electrical corporations, community choice aggregators, local publicly owned electric utilities and electric service providers, purchase a specified minimum percentage of electricity generated by eligible renewable energy resources in any given year as a specified percentage of total kilowatt hours sold to retail end-use customers each calendar year (renewables portfolio standard).

Failed
Assembly
Energy,
Utilities &
Commerce &
National
Resources
Committee

SB 1790 Bowen

Energy Resources

Amends legislative findings and declarations related to the State Energy Conservation Assistance Account administered by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission and states the intent of the Legislature that the energy efficiency measures and programs for which grants and loans may be provided are for existing and planned buildings and facilities. Also requires the California Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the commission, to develop a program for residential and commercial customer air-conditioning load control.